

LETTER OF CONCERN

January 10, 1997

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Gilmer Abel
Vice President Operations
Tennessee Gas
1010 Milam Street, P. O. Box 2511
Houston, TX 77252-2511

CPF No. 26115C

Dear Mr. Abel:

From March 11, 1996 to May 31, 1996, a representative of the Southern Region, Office of Pipeline Safety (OPS), performed pipeline safety inspections covering areas of your operation in Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee, Alabama, and Kentucky. In an effort to maximize the efficiency of these inspections, most of the field records relating to these inspections were reviewed in your Houston Offices during the week of April 1, 1996. Please find attached a list of the Districts inspected.

The inspections revealed two technical oversights that are cause for concern. A flow control/regulator facility installed in 1994 at Main Line Valve 558 apparently did not include overpressure protection devices as required of 192.195(a). Also, required actions resulting from a class location change (reported effective 3/31/94, class 1 to class 2) on line 100-4 in valve section 93 apparently were not taken within the 18 month time period, as required of 192.611.

I understand that in both of these cases the problems have been corrected. My concern is for Tennessee to maintain adequate controls that will prevent these types of oversights from occurring in the future.

I hope you will consider my concern as constructive relating to pipeline safety. If we can answer any questions or be of any help, please call me at (404) 562-3533.

Sincerely,

Frederick A. Joyner
Director, Southern Region
Office of Pipeline Safety

cc: Mr. Al Richardson, TG
Mr. Al Minton, TG
Compliance Registry, OPS Headquarters
file::Tennessee Gas

DR/lgd

Tennessee Gas Districts Inspected 3/11/96 to 5/31/96

<u>District #</u>	<u>Inspection Dates</u>
538 & 546	3/11 - 3/13, 3/25 - 3/26
555	3/26 - 3/27
Records (Houston)	4/1 - 4/4
63	4/8 - 4/9
54	4/9 - 4/10
200 & 114 (KY)	5/20 - 5/22
96	5/28 - 5/29
106	5/30 - 5/31